



# THE UNDERACHIEVERS EXPRESS

On Saturday, October 3, the Community Center for the Performing Arts and University of Oregon Campus Radio 88.1 FM KWVA proudly welcome The Un-

derachievers “Forevermore Express Tour” to the WOW Hall with special guests Pouya and the Buffet Boys, Kirk Knight and Bodega Bamz.

As members of the Beast Coast movement, which includes Joey Bada\$\$, the Pro Era crew and Flatbush Zombies, The Underachievers are part of the new wave of rap-

pers that have been coming out of New York. Rapper AK started rapping at 11 years old and his partner Issa Gold started six years ago. Raised together in Flatbush, Brooklyn, they established The Underachievers in 2011 and have been creating music together ever since.

In May 2012, the group released their debut video for “So Devilish” and everything began to take off from there. Since then, the group has gained more than 24 million views on YouTube, 125,000+ YouTube subscribers and solid reviews from all of the top music publications.

The Underachievers released the critically acclaimed *Indigoism* in February of 2013. The debut mixtape received an eight out of ten from Pitchfork.com and has since gone platinum on DatPiff. The mixtape has been downloaded over 300k times and has accumulated over 745k views on the unique website

In August of 2013, UA released their second project *The Lords of Flatbush*, produced entirely by the extraordinary producer Lex Luger. Again the mixtape was released on DatPiff and it amassed over 155k downloads making it a gold release on the site.

In 2014, the group headlined their first tour “Eyes of the World” across North America, Canada & Europe. In August of the same year, UA also released their debut album on the RPM MSC label entitled *Cellar Door: Terminus Ut Exordium*. The album charted #16 on R&B/Hip-Hop Album chart, #12 on INDI Album chart, #11 on Rap Album chart and #86 on the Billboard 200 album chart in its first week.

The Underachievers wrapped up 2014 with a co-headline tour across North America and Canada joining Flatbush Zombies for a jaunt dubbed “Clockwork Indigo Presents The Electric Koolade Experience” which included a sold out show on Halloween at the WOW Hall.

Kirk Knight started rapping and working on music in his early teens, but it wasn’t until he met Joey Bada\$\$ and became a part of the Pro Era crew that he decided it’d be his destined path in life.

Knight is best known for his production work with Joey Bada\$\$, Mick Jenkins, and his fellow Pro Era members. Notable contributions include his stand out work on Joey Bada\$\$’s debut album

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

THE OH HELLOS & JOSEPH P2  
BLACKALICIOUS P3



MAN MAN P4  
GOLDFISH P4  
J BOOG P5  
BOWLING FOR SOUP P6  
GIRL ON FIRE P7



# SONNY KNIGHT & THE LAKERS DO IT LIVE

On Sunday, September 27, the Community Center for the Performing Arts and KRVM proudly welcome Sonny Knight and the Lakers to the WOW Hall.

Sonny Knight and the Lakers exist in the afterglow that soul luminaries like Sam Cooke and Aretha Franklin created with their raucous, kinetic and supreme live performances. Released by Secret Stash Records, *Sonny Knight and the Lakers Do It Live* is a loving return to the height of live Rhythm and Blues, with Knight and his band perfectly capturing the uproarious vibe and rebellious musicianship of an era long gone in their first live album release.

A year of steady touring through the US and Europe has allowed the group to create a seamless set, mixing songs from their critically-acclaimed debut studio album, *I’m Still Here*, with a couple covers of classic soul songs from their native

Minneapolis, and re-imagined bits from Led Zeppelin and James Brown. Recorded in their hometown of Minneapolis at the Dakota Jazz Club over two nights and four performances, Sonny Knight and the Lakers aim to bring a new focus on the art of the live record. Hoping to add to the rich history of live albums rather than producing something merely derivative, they set out to reconstruct the ephemeral experience of a live concert and earn a permanent place on your record shelf.

Being devoted collectors of classic R&B and soul records, creating a live album was something the band always thought about, but never had any solid plans for. The Dakota Jazz Club was a welcome stop after touring throughout Europe, and after securing the booking, Secret Stash Records founder and Lakers drummer, Eric Foss, realized that it would be one of the final opportunities

to capture the show before tearing it apart and building a new one.

Sonny Knight recalls, “We played that show for such a long time that things were just right. Things had already been tweaked, everything was there, and everything was ready to go.”

Lots of jumping through logistical hoops ensued in the days leading up to the shows. The club’s staff allowed the label to transform the artist green room into a fully functional, 100% analog recording studio control room, even drilling holes through the walls to run cables in order to get a live feed. After that, all that was left was the actual performing part. Since they were recording directly to 2-track tape, there was no room for error; there is no ability to go back and fix a take. Secret Stash Chief Engineer, John Miller, mixed the record live, essentially making John the 9<sup>th</sup> member of the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

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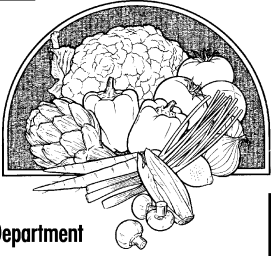
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# WOW HALL NOTES

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## THE OH HELLOS

On Friday, September 25, the CCPA and KRVM proudly welcome The Oh Hellos "Dear Wormwood" Tour with special guests Joseph.

Tyler Heath began writing and recording his music in 2007. He has released three albums by himself called *Let It Go*, *A Christmas Album*, and *We're All In This Together*. In 2011, his sister Maggie Heath joined him, which is when they became known as The Oh Hellos.

Maggie and Tyler Heath recorded their self-titled EP in 2011. This brother/sister duo out of San Marcos, TX elicits a beautiful folk sound that blends perfectly with the rise of modern Americana. They belong among the ranks of the Lumineers, The Head and the Heart, and Of Monsters and Men, and yet their story sets them apart. Having written their first song for their mother, the duo realized they had a knack for soaring harmonies, beautiful acoustic melodies and passionate sonic builds.

The group released their eponymous EP in 2011 and followed up with their self-released debut album in the fall of 2012.

"What I love most about this band is that their album isn't dominated by any one single, but rather is a complete and gorgeous palate of folk genius," reports *MusicMondays.fm*, "keep your eyes out for the next big

thing in Americana."

In the fall of 2012, the sibling duo released their debut full-length record *Through the Deep, Dark Valley*, an album full of regret and redemption, which they wrote, recorded, produced, mixed and mastered themselves. The self-proclaimed "concept album" works best when its tracks are heard all together, chronologically. But the lyrically rich, harmony-full songs also hold their own as individual stories of longing and innocence with a twinge of mysticism. *Through the Deep, Dark Valley* draws from the EP's roots of traditional Irish folk songs but adds a layer of complex storytelling to weave all of its songs together.

"Without exception," reports Georgetown University's WGTB, "the vocals are fantastic (the siblings have wonderful harmonizing chemistry), the instrumentation (with help from a few friends who play accordion, banjo, and cello) is full of flavor, and the tunes are catchy... I cannot wait to see the great heights this duo will reach."

As with their first album, Tyler and Maggie Heath produced *Through the Deep, Dark Valley* themselves.

"I feel like our self-production is what gives our music its signature sound", says Tyler. "Not to mention, we'd probably drive

producers insane with how often we start songs over from scratch! It's an incredibly difficult process, but that doesn't really make it any less rewarding."

When the time came in early 2013 to bring the music to the stage, the Heaths reached out to friends both new and old and gathered together an ensemble of touring musicians the size of a circus, tumblers and all. Their live show, like their album, presents two alternating faces: at times delicate, intimate, affectionate; and at others, soaring and towering and joyfully explosive. Their influences range from Fleet Foxes and Sufjan Stevens to The Middle East and the Muppets, bending and blending styles and genres into a unique mixture of eclectic folk rock.

In December 2013, the group released a Christmas EP, *The Oh Hellos' Family Christmas Album*.

Joseph is a band of three sisters from the Pacific Northwest. Expect honest words and genetically perfected harmonies.

"Natalie, Allison and Meegan Clossner are a force of nature that rarely comes around," reports *Daytrotter*. "These three beautiful ladies from Portland, Oregon, were created for the very act of turning air and energy into voice. The sounds that they are able to summon from their bodies are heaven sent, roundly giving you chills and making you feel as if you've just been kissed."

Tickets are \$13 in advance, \$15 at the door. Doors open at 8:00 pm and showtime is 9:00. ★







# BLACKALICIOUS IS BACK

On Thursday, September 24, Double Tee and Dead Nation Presents welcome Blackalicious back to the WOW Hall along with special guests Lateef The Truthspeaker and Lifesavas.

"It's been a decade since the last Blackalicious LP, 2005's *The Craft*," reports *Rolling Stone*, "but the influential hip-hop duo comprised of rapper Gift of Gab and producer Chief Xcel have come full-circle on their expansive new album, *Imani*, Vol. 1, self-released on August 14<sup>th</sup>."

"*Imani* Vol. 1 is our fourth album and marks another milestone in our career," says Chief Xcel. "Each album we do together tends to be a journey within itself that represents a very specific chapter of our lives. From Bosko's timeless talk box to Zap Mama's vocal brilliance, the ensemble of musicians, MCs, and vocalists involved in making *Imani* Vol. 1 all brought something very unique to the project that helped us grow and continue to expand the sound of Blackalicious."

Blackalicious began work on *Imani* (the Swahili word for "faith") three years ago, lining up guest appearances from several rappers (Lifesavas, Lateef, Lyrics Born), funk band Monophonic, polyphonic Afro-pop vocalist Zap Mama, hip-hop/soul musician Bosko and black roots musician Fantastic Negrito, among others -- the first installment focuses primarily on the duo themselves.

"We wanted people to get Blackalicious," Gift of Gab told *Exclaim* in January. "I think that *Volume Two* may be a bit more guest-heavy, but with this one, because it's been so long since we put out a record, we wanted people to get Blackalicious, you know?"

Since making their WOW Hall debut in July 2000, Blackalicious has earned respect through honesty, commitment and artistry. They are noted for Gift of Gab's often "tongue-twisting", multisyllabic, complex rhymes and Chief

Xcel's "classic" beats. Blackalicious can be quirky and eccentric; nonetheless, spirituality is a big part of the group's music.

"Blackalicious has generally favored what hip-hoppers call the 'positive tip,'" reports *All Music Guide*, "in other words, its lyrics have often been spiritual and uplifting rather than violent or misogynous."

Gift of Gab (Timothy Parker) and Chief Xcel (Xavier Mosley) first met in Sacramento, CA, in 1987 when they were students at John F. Kennedy High School. The two went their separate ways after graduation, but they were reunited in Davis, CA, in 1992. UC Davis was where Xcel had started working with a hip-hop crew named SoleSides, whose members included DJ Shadow, Lateef the Truthspeaker and Lyrics Born. The crew's record company released Blackalicious' debut single "Swan Lake" in 1994. The following year, SoleSides released a Blackalicious EP titled *Melodica*. SoleSides then transformed into Quannum Records, and in 1999, Quannum put out another Blackalicious EP, *A2G*.

In 2000, Quannum released the group's full-length debut *Nia* (the Swahili word for purpose). Blackalicious next signed with major label MCA and in 2002, Quannum/MCA released *Blazing Arrow*. Xcel and Gab then began developing solo material; Quannum released *Maroons' Ambush* (Chief Xcel with Latyrx's Lateef the Truthspeaker) as well as a Gift of Gab solo LP, *Fourth Dimensional Rocketships Going Up*. The pair returned in 2005 for their third album, *The Craft*.

Though it's been 10 years since their last album, the duo have remained busy with other projects: in 2013, Xcel joined RV Salters (General Elektriks) to release *Walking Into a Burning House*, his debut collaboration with Salters as Burning House. Gift of Gab has released three solo LPs -- including 2012's *The Next Logical Progression*.

That same year, the rapper suffered kidney failure from his Type 1 diabetes; he's continuing dialysis treatments while awaiting a kidney donor.

Lateef the Truthspeaker, along with DJ Shadow, Blackalicious and Lyrics Born, is one of the founders of the SoleSides / Quannum collective. He is a member of the groups Latyrx, Lateef and the Chief and The Mighty Underdogs.

Lateef was raised in East Oakland, where his father was security detail for the Black Panthers. His mother, a Panther medic, was a roommate and political associate of Angela Davis.

As a solo artist, Lateef has released several mixtapes such as *Ahead of the Curve* (2007), *Truth Is Love* (2009), and *Truth at Sea* (2011). His solo debut album, *Firewire*, was released in 2011. It features contributions from Chief Xcel, Del the Funky Homosapien, The Grouch, Lyrics Born, Dan the Automator and DJ Shadow.

Additional releases include, with Latyrx: *Latyrx (The Album)* (1997), *The Muzappers Mixes EP* (1997), *The Muzappers Mixes* (1997), *Disconnection* (2012) and *The Second Album* (2013); Lateef and the Chief: *Maroons: Ambush* (2004); The Mighty Underdogs: *The Prelude EP* (2007) and *Droppin' Science Fiction* (2008) as well as guest appearances on all of the Blackalicious albums.

Quannum Projects recording artists Lifesavas have a new EP (out late Aug 2015) and a new LP coming. The Portland-based group consists of MC Vursatyl, producer/emcee Jumbo and DJ/producer Shines.

Lifesavas vibe is classic hip-hop with tag-team rhymes and their signature LS production. The emcee's swagger and songwriting skills are showcased in the arrangements of a funky collection of concepts and subject matter that you can feel.

Tickets are \$17 in advance, \$20 at the door. Doors open at 8:00 pm and showtime is 9:00. ★

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# MAN MAN MEETS SHILPA RAY

By Ryan P. Moloney

On Tuesday, September 15, the CCPA and University of Oregon Campus Radio 88.1 FM KWVA proudly welcome Man Man back to the WOW Hall along with special guest Shilpa Ray.

Man Man is an experimental rock band from Philadelphia led by their two primary members Honus Honus and Pow Pow. The band's sound is hard to classify into one single genre due to the wide range of instrumentation and influences, which range from vintage rock to psychedelic to classic soul.

Their fifth album, *On Oni Pond*, was released in 2013 and was the group's first album to feature a charting single. The left field outfit has gradually polished and reimagined its style over the course of their discography and has forged a new and compelling sound that is still very reminiscent of their previous works. This shift is especially evident in Honus's lyrics such as the hook to "End Boss", in which he warns, "If you won't reinvent yourself, you can't circumvent yourself."

Honus Honus says of *On Oni Pond*, "With this album we got to do something that very few bands or creative people get to do which is a reboot, and one that feels natural."

Rather than falling victim to the common downfall of other well-travelled bands,



Man Man has ensured their listeners that they are capable of sonic evolution without compromising the qualities that earned them slots at renowned festivals such as

Coachella and Primavera Sound. Nearing the end of a tour that has lasted almost three years, Man Man promise to deliver an energetic set featuring plenty of songs

from their newest album alongside their standout hits from earlier in their career.

## SHILPA RAY

Shilpa Ray is known as an "artist's artist." Just about every musician in New York City who doesn't hate her, loves her. Nick Cave sings her praises to all with the ears to listen (he brought her along a European tour as an opener and as a backup singer in the States).

Having made her bones with the gothic Beat The Devil and the blues erosion of "... and The Happy Hookers", Shilpa Ray has been, through no fault of her own, one of our unsung great artists. Now, with *Last Year's Savage*, Shilpa Ray has taken the pain and dark funk of earlier sounds and made explicit the sublimity that was always there just below the surface. The conversation has become less a break up with doors ripped from their hinges and more the last pained pillow talk before parting. The obsessions with sex, death, bodily functions and betrayal remain but Shilpa has expanded the palate to convey the resignation, the simmering discontent of an artist disenfranchised and held down.

This is a quieter rage than the music Shilpa Ray has made before, more plaintive and considered, even if it's the quiet of a hand gripped tight on the axe handle. The music remains gorgeous and stirring in its directness while Shilpa herself -- armed only with an incomparable voice and harmonium haunted by the ghosts of dead lovers -- remains entirely and inappropriately threatening.

Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$18 at the door. Doors open at 7:00 pm and showtime is 8:00. ★

# GOLDFISH ROCKS NORTH AMERICA



On Thursday, September 17, the CCPA and U. of O. Campus Radio 88.1 FM KWVA proudly welcome Goldfish "The Storm" Tour.

This summer's festival season saw South African electronic band Goldfish explode across North America's consciousness. Appearances at Ultra Music Festival Miami, Electric Forest Festival, Northern Nights, Global Dance Festival and Wakarusa Festival wowed crowds and saw the duo become one of the hot picks for seasoned critics up and down the continent. Not surprisingly, fans want more and the Fishies are never ones to disappoint, announcing their second major club tour of the year across the USA and Canada.

Hitting Chicago, Fort Collins, Aspen, Colorado Springs, St Louis, Whistler, Vancouver, Seattle, Eugene, Austin and Del Mar from September 4<sup>th</sup> to September 19<sup>th</sup>, Goldfish will end things on a high with a hotly anticipated performance at KAABOO Festival in San Diego and two special Halloween dates in San Francisco and Live Oak, wrapping up an incredible six months during which their profile in the key Stateside market has skyrocketed.

"We literally couldn't have imagined a more incredible Summer Tour response in the USA if we tried," said

Dominic Peters from the band. "Every festival we've played has felt like a best ever... and it just keeps building. You really get the sense that what we are doing with live instruments in dance music is what everyone has been waiting for and it's just so exciting to see where Goldfish is heading Stateside. UP!"

Renowned for their incredible blend of electronic production and live instruments -- pianos, keyboards, saxophone, flute, double bass and more -- and a show that raises the roof every time they set foot on stage, it was only a matter of time before they finally broke America. With MTV Africa awards in their back pocket, chart topping albums, countless residencies at the legendary Pacha Ibiza and some of the most funk-fuelled house music out there right now, the band are riding a wave of Organic House straight to the top.

From their beginnings as music students surfing and chilling on the beaches of coastal Cape Town, Dominic Peters and David Poole have gone on to become one of the most original production teams in recent history, creating award-winning albums and developing a live DJ show that blends recorded sound with live percussion, string, woodwind and brass, blowing through all genres and surpassing all expectations.

2005's freshman album *Caught In The Loop* first won them global attention with its chilled out, trip-hop electronica vibe. Locking themselves away with a double bass, saxophone and a couple of synths, the pair emerged with a groundbreaking long player that spawned tracks like the delicately languorous "The Real Deal", swing-infected, bass-injected "All Night", jazz-influenced "Mbira Beat" and the stunning "Egyptology". It was a collective sound that was picked by Radio 1's Pete Tong as his Album Of The Summer, marking the band as ones to watch.

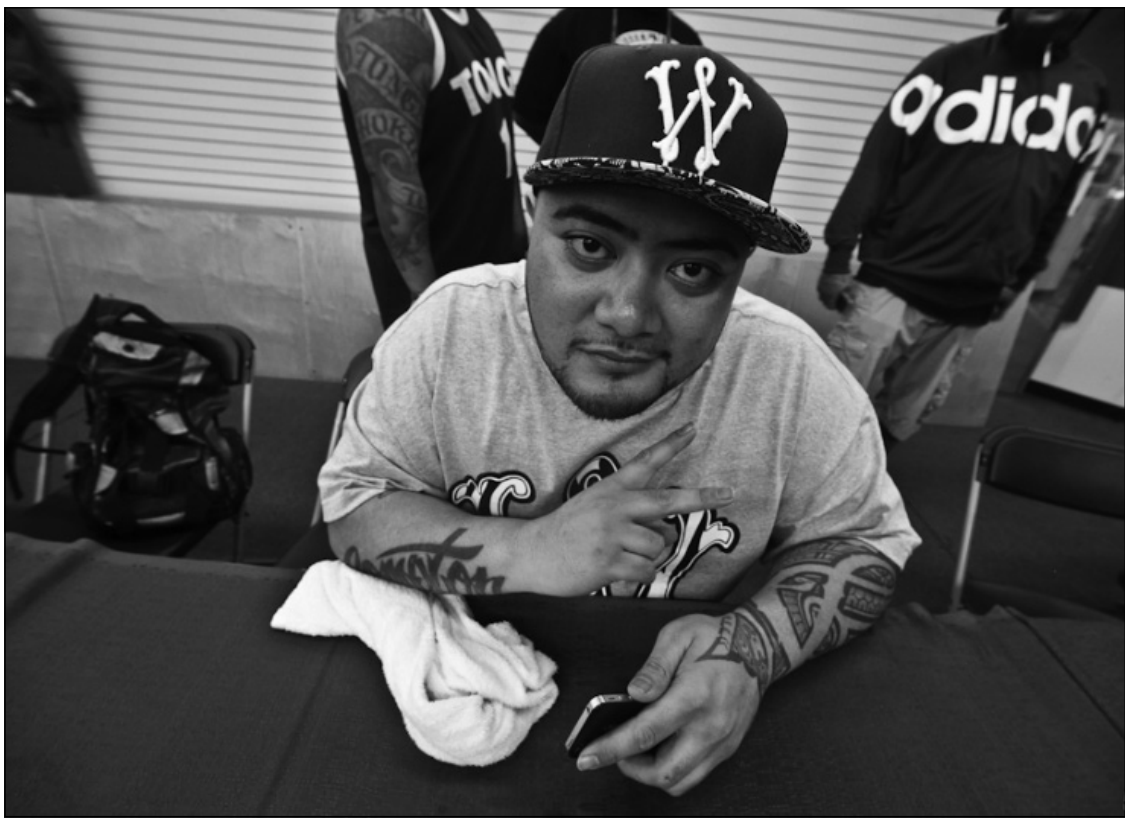
After scooping a record-breaking eight nominations at the 2009 South African Music Awards (SAMA) in the wake of sophomore album *Perceptions of Pacha* -- named after residence at the legendary Ibiza venue -- and winning Best Producer and Best Dance Album categories, Goldfish returned with their third studio album. 2010's *Get Busy Living* cemented them as one of South Africa's biggest musical exports worldwide. Touring, producing, remixing with the likes of Fedde Le Grand, supported by everyone from Dr Dre and Faithless to Sebastian Ingrosso, Sander Kleinenberg and Pete Tong -- Goldfish were the darlings of funk-pop with an army of fans in all corners of the world.

2013 saw the release of *1 Million Views* with John Mani on lead vocals. The track, subsequently remixed by Bakermat, was a tongue-in-cheek take on music artists' obsession with social media, leading into their latest album *Three Second Memory*. The album is as close as you can get to musical perfection -- "Followers Of The Beat", "Choose Your Own Adventure", "Moonwalk Away" and titular track "Three Second Memory" winning Goldfish "Best Pop Act" at the 2014 MTV Africa Music Awards.

In between the music, Goldfish continually tour the planet. From the Sydney Opera House to the Amsterdam Olympic Stadium, from Miami to Sao Paulo to London and beyond, from Glastonbury and Sensation White to Ultra Music Festival Miami and South Africa, 46664, Wakarusa, Mysteryland (US), Electric Forest, Northern Nights, KAABOO, Get Loaded In The Park and sell-out North American tours, Goldfish have continually proven themselves to be one of the most exciting and inspiring live acts around, with an unqualified ability to get the crowd off their feet. Adding to their rapidly expanding tour diary, Goldfish are set to prove why they are one of the most exciting, talented, funk-drenched live House bands on the face of the planet.

Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$17 at the door. Doors open at 8:00 pm and showtime is 9:00. ★





# ISLAND REGGAE WITH J BOOG

On Wednesday, September 23, Double Tee and Dead Nation Presents welcomes J Boog back to the WOW Hall along with special guests Inna Vision.

The boogiemani is back! Jerry “J Boog” Afemata, last here in November ’14, wants you to “liven up” with a night of authentic Island Music and genuine Jamaican reggae at the same time. There is also a natural theme to Boog’s writing: love. When you listen, you will feel he truly knows matters of the heart.

A singer of Samoan descent, J Boog was born in Long Beach and raised in Compton, California. Steeped in Samoan culture as the son of a Samoan chief, J Boog’s large family had a huge impact on his artistry. He is the youngest of seven brothers and one sister. He credits his sister with being one of his earliest musical influences. She played piano and he began to sing along when she brought home a Bob Marley songbook. Each sibling offered exposure to other genres, such as rap and R&B. This variety of musical influences -- combined with reggae’s feel good sound that was embraced by the whole Afemata family -- set J Boog on a path to creating his own unique reggae sound.

Nicknamed “Boog” by his siblings because he could never sit still for long, J has not taken a break since the release of his 2007 debut album *Hear Me Roar*, a close collaboration with island music pioneer George “Fiji” Veikoso.

In 2008 J Boog teamed up with Yami Bolo and Ambassador Gramps Morgan of Morgan Heritage. On his first trip to Jamaica, J Boog’s unexpectedly found himself working in Bob Marley’s “Tuff Gong Studio”, Don Corlean’s “Hit Maker Studio”, Bobby Digital’s “Digital B Studio”, Shaggy’s “Big Yard Studio” and Sugar Minott’s “Youth Man Promotions”.

Guided by Gramps Morgan, J Boog found himself surrounded by several artists who would later appear on his follow-up album, *Backyard Boogie*, in 2011. *Backyard Boogie* topped the US Billboard charts and iTunes charts in numerous countries. It featured the hits “Let’s Do It Again”, produced by the legendary Don Corleon, and “Sunshine Girl”, which was produced by Gramps Morgan/Dada-son and featured Morgan Heritage frontman Peetah Morgan. The success of *Backyard Boogie* earned J Boog the Best New Entertainer Award at the

2012 International Reggae and World Music Awards held in Chicago.

In 2013 and 2014 J Boog recorded several singles both independently and collaboratively. His EP *Live Up!* reached #18 on the Top Heatseekers chart and #4 on Top Reggae Albums. He has also worked on a mixtape release of his tracks called *My Diamond Life* for fashionista powerhouse Diamond Supply Co.

Inna Vision is known as Maui’s first reggae band to tour nationally and gain worldwide recognition with hit songs like “Positive Ions”, “Find a Way”, “East End” and “Inspiration”. The band’s last project, *Live at Imperial Sound*, was released in 2013 under VP Records and debuted at #4 on iTunes charts. The six song EP gathered nationwide attention with “in the making” YouTube videos that showcased Inna Vision recording live in one take. Inna Vision albums have debuted top ten on iTunes and are some of the most played island reggae songs on Pandora.

Inna Vision’s fourth full-length album set to drop in 2015.

Tickets are \$16 in advance, \$20 at the door. Doors open at 8:00 pm and showtime is 9:00. ★



# ART FOR SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER

For the month of September, the WOW Hall lobby art gallery will proudly display *Inbetween Days*: Acrylic on canvas by Wendi Kai.

Wendi Kai is a classically trained painter. She has been exploring this medium her whole life. She is also a professional tattoo artist in Eugene. The navigation between worlds she regularly experiences is starting to be seen clearly in this body of work.



For the month of October, the Eugene chapter of the Oregon Glass Guild and Local Clay are co-sponsoring an exhibit of entries in their Mask Contest.

There will be an opening for this show on Friday October 2, from 5:00 – 7:00 pm. Admission is free.

The WOW Hall Lobby Art Gallery is open for viewing during box office hours, which beginning Sept. 8 are noon to 6:00 pm, Monday through Friday. ★



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# GIRL ON FIRE

On Friday, October 2, the CCPA and U. of O. Campus Radio 88.1 FM KWVA proudly welcome Girl On Fire, Black Bell, Axis Salvation and Black Out.

From Jimi Hendrix and Kurt Cobain to Presidents Of The United States Of America and Sir Mix A Lot, the Jet City has a musical history as rich and storied as it is vast – now Seattle rockers Girl On Fire are emerging to write a chapter all their own.

After just one listen to “The Takedown” – the lead single from the band’s debut album *Not Broken* -- one is transported from the overcast and down-tuned landscape of the Pacific Northwest to a place where energy and enthusiasm explode at every corner. Girl On Fire aren’t inspired by what gets them down, they’re driven by what gets them through – and that is the battle-cry of *Not Broken*, an album that prides itself in inspired lyrics, infectious hooks, rattling breakdowns and overpowering intensity.

Produced and mixed by Jay Baumgardner [Papa Roach, Evanescence, Sevendust] and mastered by Howie Weinberg [Nirvana, Aerosmith, The White Stripes] *Not Broken* is a combustible combination of crisp riffs and body-shaking rhythms, a guitar driven thrill ride primed to take radio by storm and leave the world rocking in its wake.

“*Everyone experiences ups and downs in life, but the ups and downs are what make life worth living. We have all looked broken, and we have all felt broken – but we are Not Broken.*” — Austin Held

Formed in the summer of 2007, Girl On Fire founding members Austin Held, guitarist Nick McMahan, bassist Josh Mouser and drummer Harry MacDonald made good use of their time together, developing a sound, spirit and an undeniable live chemistry all to their own. Having been repeat winners of local Ernie Ball Battles of unsigned bands, it wasn’t until the Seattle Warped Tour when Girl On Fire’s “first taste of the big stage” came along ... thereafter, it was non-stop doing tours with the likes of Burn Halo, Hell Or Highwater and Get Scared – on the legs of a 5-track *Revenge* EP.

Leading to the release of *Not Broken* in Fall 2013, mass audiences had already experienced the band live on runs with power houses such as Buckcherry, Halestorm and Pop Evil, as well as appearances at the Aftershock, Welcome To Rockville and Fort Rock festivals. That year guitarist Nicholas Wiggins (formerly of Aiden) was officially added as a full-time member of the band, giving now Girl On Fire a dual-guitar attack thus taking their already high-octane shows to an even greater level.

## BLACK BELL

“Tempered ferocity” may sound like a contradiction in terms but it is, in fact the defining characteristic for Black Bell. Self-dubbed as “High Contrast Rock,” Black Bell employs multiple layers of sonic texturing for a mature sound that is simultaneously catchy and melodic, and dark and heavy.

Ash Biggs and Mike Loudenback have been the primary creative force driving Black Bell’s song writing since its’ inception in late 2009. The duo began together in 2008 on Stillfire’s *Here Lies the Wounded*. Following the completion of that album in 2009, Biggs and Loudenback began Black Bell as a side project with the release of seven new songs on the acoustic EP *The Truth of Silence*.

In 2011, BB began production work on the second installment of their legacy, the aptly titled, *The Inevitable Decline*. *TID* proved itself to be a long hard process as personnel changes made the future of Black Bell uncertain, but Loudenback and Biggs worked to see its completion. *The Inevitable Decline* was released in June of 2014.

An emotionally charged live performance makes Black Bell one of Eugene’s many risings stars.

Axis salvation is Cody Meng (singer, songwriter, guitarist), Eric Belcher (bass), Bryan Pelkey (guitar, keyboard, vocals) and Corey Rue (drums). They forged their band in Eugene with a vision to keep rock alive -- to keep its rebellious loud roots pumping through their music and instruments.

Tickets are \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. Doors open at 8:00 pm and showtime is 9:00. ★



# BOWLING FOR SOUP TURNS 21

On Wednesday, September 16, Square Peg Concerts presents Bowling For Soup with special guests The Dollyrots and Ivory Tribes.

Bowling For Soup is turning 21 and celebrating with a US tour!. Lead vocalist/guitarist Jaret Reddick, guitarist/vocalist Chris Burney, bassist Erik Chandler and drummer Gary Wiseman formed BFS in 1994 in Wichita Falls, Texas. However, they didn’t rise beyond local prominence until 1997, when a heavy touring schedule landed them opening spots for nationally prominent punk and ska bands. The following year, Bowling for Soup recorded a debut EP for the local FFROE label, titled *Tell Me When to Whoa!*; by this point, their base of operations had been moved to Denton, Texas, the site of the label’s headquarters as well. Later in 1998, Bowling for Soup issued their first full-length album, *Rock on Honorable Ones!!!* Both it and its predecessor proved to be popular around the state and the band ended up scoring a deal with Jive/Silvertone.

For their 2000 major-label debut, *Let’s Do It for Johnny!*, Bowling for Soup re-recorded some of the best songs from their indie records and added a few new tracks, including lead single “The Bitch Song” and a cover of Bryan Adams’ “Summer of ‘69”. Two years later, the band released *Drunk Enough to Dance*, and nabbed a Grammy nomination for the single “Girl All the Bad Guys Want”. *Hangover You Don’t Deserve* followed in 2004, and BFS landed another hit single with “1985”, which helped propel *Hangover* to #37 on the Billboard 200.

Bowling for Soup returned in 2005 with *Goes to the Movies*, on which they tackled various television and movie theme songs. *The Great Burrito Extortion Case* followed in the fall of 2006, spearheaded by the bouncy single “High School Never Ends”, while *Sorry for Partyin’* -- the band’s seventh studio effort -- arrived in late 2009. After rounding out the year with a holiday album, *Merry Flippin’ Christmas, Vol. 1*, Bowling for Soup launched an acoustic tour in 2010 and began recording the band’s 11th studio

album later that summer. The resulting *Fishin’ for Woos* was finished in three weeks and released in 2011; they also released a second holiday album, *Merry Flippin’ Christmas, Vol. 2*, that year.

In 2013 the band released their twelfth album, *Lunch. Drunk. Love.*, an album that finds the band tempering the brashness of youth with the kind of confidence that comes with age and experience. Setting the tone is the opening track, “Critically Disdained”, a song that lets the world know that Bowling for Soup are a band that knows what they’re all about, and whether or not someone likes it isn’t going to change what they do or how they do it. This kind of song really feels like a disclaimer, as if the band is saying, “hey, we’re dudes that like silly jokes and stuff, so don’t be mad when we’re not completely serious all the time.” This relatable vibe is what’s helped Bowling for Soup endure in what normally feels like a young man’s game.

## THE DOLLYROTS

Kelly Ogden [vocals, bass] and Luis Cabezas [guitar, vocals] -- better known as The Dollyrots -- have built an incredible audience through tireless touring and recording. Forming in 2000 while still teenagers, they’ve become true punk stalwarts. They released their debut *Eat My Heart Out* in 2004 via Lookout Records followed by 2007’s *Because I’m Awesome* and 2010’s *A Little Messed Up* both for Joan Jett’s Blackheart Records. Then, the band dropped their self-titled fourth album on their very own Arrested Youth Records. Along the way, they

played the Vans Warped Tour a staggering seven times and saw placements on *CSI: NY*, *Easy A*, *Raising Hope*, Pixar’s *Brave*, *Greek*, and numerous other films and television shows.

When The Dollyrots entered the studio in late 2013, the punk pair brought someone else along for the ride. Ogden was actually pregnant with the couple’s first child, River. As a result, they tapped into something very special for their fifth full-length album, the aptly titled *Barefoot And Pregnant*.

“Well, our goal for 2013 was to make a new record and have a baby,” smiles the frontwoman. “We accomplished both. It’s straightforward punk rock. We didn’t overthink anything, and nobody was looking over our shoulders. The end result is an album that shows where Luis and I are at right now. It’s honest. The album literally grew as my belly grew.”

“The phrase Barefoot And Pregnant has some negative connotations,” laughs Ogden. “It makes you think of fifties housewives who had no option other than to stay home barefoot and pregnant in the kitchen. We feel totally the opposite about pregnancy. It’s an F-U to the idea that when you have a kid your life is over and that’s all women are good for. We’re not afraid to flaunt parenthood and still rock.”

The band financed the effort through PledgeMusic.

Based out of Dallas, Texas, indie alternative group Ivory Tribes is comprised of vocalist Dublin Alexander and synth player Anthony Le.

Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$22 at the door. Doors open at 7:00 pm and showtime is 8:00. ★





## UNDERACHIEVERS FROM PAGE 1

*B4.DA.\$\$,* including the album’s lead single, “Big Dusty”, as well as the eerie, critically acclaimed track “Hazeus View”. Knight is also recognized for his production credits on Joey Bada\$\$’s earlier efforts including *Summer Knights* as well as Joey’s debut mixtape *1999* on the song “Where It’s At”.

Nathaniel De La Rosa, better known as Bodega Bamz, is an emerging artist from Spanish Harlem, New York.

Bodega Bamz has gone on several nationwide tours, performing with artists such as Danny Brown and Flatbush Zombies. This year he released his highly anticipated album entitled *Sidewalk Exec*, a V. Don produced project that was well received due to its raw narratives.

Tickets are \$18 in advance, \$20 at the door. Doors open at 8:00 pm and showtime is 9:00.

## SONNY KNIGHT FROM PAGE 1

band that night. Not only did they need solid takes from each player, they needed solid takes from the engineer.

Sonny Knight and the Lakers were ready to show their fans just how their live show had evolved and how different it had become from their studio recordings. Knight explains, “We’re very proud of the studio work we do, and we will continue to do it. But, we want to share the raw energy of our live show with more people.”

He adds, “We want to set ourselves apart from some of the other acts out there playing soul music today.”

The band also wanted to dramatize and enhance audience interaction for the recording, much like their R&B predecessors did. From the moment the Lakers introduce the 66-year old Sonny Knight on stage during an instrumental groove, he affectionately provokes the audience with “Where that noise at?” and doesn’t slow down for the entire 16-track set list.

The hard-soul powerhouse that is Sonny Knight & The Lakers have quickly gained ground in their hometown, from being named one of “The Best New Minnesota Musicians of 2014” via the *City Pages*, to topping the *Minneapolis Star Tribune*’s list of the best live act of 2014 due to their “high-energy... funk-blasting” shows.

Accolades for *I’m Still Here* rolled in from top national outlets as well. NPR’s *World Café* professed the album is, “New ‘old-school’ soul music,” and that “it captures the singer sounding as vital as ever...a wonderful album.” WBEZ’s *Sound Opinions* even prophesized that, “It sounds like a live recording... It has that sort of vibrancy to it, and Sonny Knight is the goods with his vocal power.”

Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door. Doors open at 7:00 pm and showtime is 8:00. ★



SUMMER 2015...  
MOOHAAHAAHAHA

## 40TH ANNIVERSARY MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

The Community Center for the Performing Arts was organized in 1975 to save the WOW Hall from demolition and keep it in community hands. This year the CCPA celebrates its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Dues paying and volunteer members are the backbone of the organization. Members elect the board of directors and thereby control the organization. If you are not currently a supporting member of the WOW Hall, now is the time to become one.

The historic dance hall at 8<sup>th</sup> and Lincoln was built by the Woodmen of the World fraternal organization, which formed in Omaha, Nebraska in 1880. The Eugene chapter provided health benefits, life insurance and burial costs while undertaking charitable and recreational activities for children and adults. Women participated through a sister organization, the Women of Woodcraft.

In 1906 the Woodmen bought the Presbyterian Church at the corner of 8<sup>th</sup> and Lincoln and renamed it Woodmen of the World Hall. The present building was constructed in 1932. An ambitious project during the Great Depression, it was, according to the *Eugene Morning Register*, the most expensive building constructed that year at a value of \$8000 and considered, “modern in every detail.” The very best of craftsmanship and materials were used with much of the work provided by volunteers. Of particular note was the beautiful hardrock maple ‘floating’ dance floor designed especially for square and ballroom dancing. Dances were held every Saturday night.

In 1975 it was learned that the Hall would soon be sold and possibly demolished. To keep the building available to the community, a group of concerned users, performers, neighbors and historical preservation enthusiasts organized the Community Center for the Performing Arts, a nonprofit (501c3) corporation.

On December 2, 1975, the leaseholder gave notice that he intended to exercise his option to sell the Hall. He informed 130 people who attended a basement meeting that he would give the community first option to buy the Hall for \$75,000 but would need a \$10,000 down payment within 13 days. To raise the money, supporters organized a WOWATHON: beginning on Dec. 10 -- five days and nights of continuous entertainment. Thanks to the community, the money was raised.

The CCPA was able to pay off the Hall’s mortgage in 1983, completing the dream of making the facility, “community-owned and democratically operated.”

Today the CCPA is dedicated to providing a safe and friendly meeting place for the community, a place for appreciation of the arts for all ages and income levels, and a training ground for new generations. The organization prides itself on the diversity of local, regional, national and international performing artists. The Hall is also used for classes, workshops, workouts, meetings, rehearsals and recording sessions. The Lobby Art Gallery displays the work of a different regional artist(s) each month.

The CCPA runs on volunteer energy and volunteer training is provided monthly. Volunteers develop job skills while demonstrating dependability, punctuality and the ability to work as part of a team. The CCPA has involved thousands of volunteers, more than half of them area teenagers. A volunteer Board of Directors meets monthly and oversees the overall operation of the Hall.

### YOU CAN HELP!

The CCPA is largely self-funded through ticket

sales, rentals, concessions, poster service and newsletter advertising, with the bulk of the ticket income going to the performers. To expand our artistic and educational programming, meet the rising cost of building maintenance and preservation, and make improvements, we need your help.

Dues paying members are an essential part of the organization, both as a major source of support for the WOW Hall’s activities and to maintain its commitment to democratic, community control. CCPA members elect and may serve on the Board of Directors and standing committees and can receive the monthly newsletter, *WOW Hall Notes*, either by mail or email.

Each December the CCPA hosts its famous Membership Party. This event always features entertainment by a variety of artists and delicious food and beverages donated by local businesses (over 80 in 2014). The Membership Party is free for members and one way the organization says, “thanks for your support!” We are also planning some additional special events for our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

To become a member, write a check to the Community Center for the Performing Arts and return it with this form, or call the office at 687- 2746. All donations are tax deductible and qualify the giver to make a matching grant to the Oregon Cultural Trust that is a state income tax credit (limits apply). ★

**The CCPA welcomes your support of the W.O.W. Hall through your tax deductible membership.**

### Benefits of membership:

- ★ Maintaining community ownership and control of the historic W.O.W. Hall
- ★ Voting rights at the CCPA Annual Meeting
- ★ Subscription to the monthly newsletter, W.O.W. Hall Notes
- ★ Free admission to the CCPA Annual Membership Party.

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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	<b>Volunteer Orientation</b> 7:00 PM	<b>Man Man Shilpa Ray</b> 7:00 PM \$15 Advance \$18 Door Rock <a href="http://manmanbandband.com/">manmanbandband.com/</a> <a href="http://www.facebook.com/wearemanman">www.facebook.com/wearemanman</a> <a href="http://www.shilparay.net/">www.shilparay.net/</a>	<b>Bowling For Soup The Dollyrots Ivory Tribes</b> (Square Peg rental) 7:00 PM \$20 Advance \$22 Door Ska/Punk <a href="http://bowlingforsoup.com/main.php">bowlingforsoup.com/main.php</a> <a href="http://thedollyrots.com/">thedollyrots.com/</a> <a href="http://www.ivorytribes.com/">www.ivorytribes.com/</a>	<b>Goldfish</b> 8:00 PM \$15 Advance \$17 Door Organic House <a href="http://www.facebook.com/GOLDFISHLIVE">www.facebook.com/GOLDFISHLIVE</a>		
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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
<b>Sonny Knight &amp; The Lakers</b> 7:00 PM \$10 Advance \$15 Door Funk-Soul <a href="http://sonnyknight.com/home/">sonnyknight.com/home/</a>					<b>Girl On Fire Black Bell Axis Salvation Black Out</b> 8:00 PM \$8 Advance \$10 Door Rock <a href="http://girlonfiremusic.com/">girlonfiremusic.com/</a> <b>Art Reception</b> 5:00 – 7:00 PM	<b>The Underachievers Pouya &amp; The Buffet Boys Bodega Bamz</b> 8:00 PM \$18 Advance \$20 Door Hip-Hop <a href="http://www.theualifestyle.com/">www.theualifestyle.com/</a> <a href="http://www.facebook.com/TheUnderachieversOfficial">www.facebook.com/TheUnderachieversOfficial</a>
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